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EXAMINER
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ABRAHAM, AMJAD A

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1744

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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12/01/2010

PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/569,225	<b>Applicant(s)</b> BOZIO ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b> AMJAD ABRAHAM	<b>Art Unit</b> 1744	

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --**

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 17 September 2010.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 38-62 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 38-62 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 30 January 2007 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                    | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)           |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____                                      |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)         | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____   | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                          |

### **DETAILED ACTION**

This is a final office action in response to applicant's remarks and amendments filed on September 17, 2010. Claims 38 and 46 are currently amended. Claims 38-62 are pending further review in this action.

#### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112 (1<sup>st</sup> Paragraph and 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph)***

1. Examiner withdraws 35 USC 112 1<sup>st</sup> paragraph rejection in view of claims 38-62 and 35 USC 112 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph rejection in view of claim 46 seen in previous office action dated June 17, 2010 due to applicant's amendments filed on September 17, 2010.

#### **Grounds of rejection Maintained from previous office action dated June 17, 2010.**

#### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

- |   |
|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>3. Claims 61-62 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Gajewski (USP No. 5,618,485).</li></ol> |
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4. Regarding claim 61, Gajewski teaches a method of making a molded article for a vehicle interior. **(See abstract).**

a. Gajewski goes on to teach the method comprising:

i. Providing a mold having a first mold section, a second mold section, and a shut-off member. **(See column 5 line 44 to column 7 line 11).**

(1) First mold section→ **See part 44 of figure 3.**

(2) Second mold section→ **See part 42 of figure 3.**

(3) A first and second shut-off member→ **See parts 48 and 50 of figure 3.**

(4) A-surface of first mold section→ **See mold surface of part 44 in figure 3.**

(5) B-surface of second mold section→ **See mold surface of part 42 of figure 3.**

(6) Shut-off member disposed in the second mold section→ **See parts 48 and 50 disposed in part 42 of figure 3.**

(7) Shut-off member movable between two positions: an extended and a retracted position→**See position of shut-off members (48 and 50) in figures 4-15 and column 5 lines 44-62.**

(8) Shut-off member has a forward surface, a first and second side surface, and an angled surface that extends between the

forward surface and the first side surface→**See configuration of part 48 in figures 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, and 15.**

b. Injecting a resin into the first cavity which is defined by the first mold section, the second mold section, and the first and second shut-off member in the first position.

i. **See figures 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, and 15.**

ii. **See also column 6 line 39 to column 7 line 11.**

(1) Gajewski teaches wherein part 48 is extended to form a cavity which is defined by a first side surface (68), the 1<sup>st</sup> mold section (44), and the second mold section (part 80 which is angled wall of lower mold (42)). **(See figure 5).**

c. Retracting the shut-off members into the second mold section. **(See column 6 lines 49-55 and figures 8-9).** This retraction defines a second cavity defined by the first mold section, the second mold section, the first resin, the first and second shut-off member in the second position. **(See figure 9 and column 6 lines 55-67).**

iii. In figure 9 of Gajewski, the retracted shut-off member (48) creates the second cavity defined by the first and second mold sections (part 42 and 44), the first resin (90), the angled surface of the shut-off member (70), and a side surface of the shut-off member (parts 64 and 68). **(See figures 5 and 9).**

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- d. Injecting the second resin into the second cavity. **(See figures 11 and 13 and column 6 line 64 to column 7 line 11).**
  - iv. The formed product on the A-surface side (mold surface side of part 44 in figure 3) is defined by the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> resin and the interface between the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> resin.
5. Regarding claim 62, Gajewski teaches wherein the first resin has a thickness between the first mold section and the second shut-off member and a second wall thickness between the first wall thickness and the second shut-off member. **(See figures 11 and 13).**

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.

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2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.

4. Claims 38-60 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gajewski (USP No. 5,618,485) in view of Schoemann et al. (USP No. 7,060,215).

6. Regarding claim 38, Gajewski teaches a method of making a molded article for a vehicle interior. **(See abstract).**

- e. Gajewski goes on to teach the method comprising:
  - ii. Providing a mold having a first mold section, a second mold section, and a shut-off member. **(See column 5 line 44 to column 7 line 11).**

(9) First mold section→ **See part 44 of figure 3.**

(10) Second mold section→ **See part 42 of figure 3.**

(11) Shut-off member→ **See parts 48 and 50 of figure 3.**

(12) A-surface of first mold section→ **See mold surface of part 44 in figure 3.**

(13) B-surface of second mold section→ **See mold surface of part 42 of figure 3.**

(14) Shut-off member disposed in the second mold section→ **See parts 48 and 50 disposed in part 42 of figure 3.**

(15) Shut-off member movable between two positions: an extended and a retracted position→**See position of shut-off members (48 and 50) in figures 4-15 and column 5 lines 44-62.**

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(16) Shut-off member has a forward surface, a first and second side surface, and an angled surface that extends between the forward surface and the first side surface→**See configuration of part 48 in figures 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, and 15.**

f. Injecting a resin into the first cavity which is defined by the first mold section, the second mold section, and the first side of the shut-off member in the first position.

v. **See figures 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, and 15.**

vi. **See also column 6 line 39 to column 7 line 11.**

(2) Gajewski teaches wherein part 48 is extended to form a cavity which is defined by a first side surface (68), the 1<sup>st</sup> mold section (44), and the second mold section (part 80 which is angled wall of lower mold (42)). **(See figure 5).**

g. Retracting the shut-off member into the second mold section. **(See column 6 lines 49-55 and figures 8-9).** This retraction defines a second cavity defined by the first mold section, the second mold section, the first resin, the first side surface of the shut-off member, and the angled surface of the shut-off member in the second position. **(See figure 9 and column 6 lines 55-67).**

vii. In figure 9 of Gajewski, the retracted shut-off member (48) creates the second cavity defined by the first and second mold sections (part 42 and 44), the first resin (90), the angled surface of the shut-off member



(70), and a side surface of the shut-off member (parts 64 and 68). **(See figures 5 and 9).**

h. Injecting the second resin into the second cavity. **(See figures 11 and 13 and column 6 line 64 to column 7 line 11).**

viii. The formed product on the A-surface side (mold surface side of part 44 in figure 3) is defined by the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> resin and the interface between the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> resin.

b. With respect to claim 38, Gajewski does not expressly teach wherein the injection of the second resin obscures the interface between the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> resin from an occupant of the vehicle interior by using an angled shut-off member.

c. However, Schoemann teaches wherein the upper surface is provided at a sufficiently flat angle relative to vertical by the angled surface of the shut-off member to obscure the interface between the first resin and the second resin from an occupant of the vehicle interior. **(Schoemann teaches a method for making a vehicle trim panel. Schoemann practices a similar concept as applied by applicant's invention and Takeuch as a multiple component trim is made in a common mold assembly by way of utilizing a movable mold element (i.e. a parting plate or a shut-off member). Schoemann goes on to disclose that the movable mold element can be modified in a way that imparts an angle to the movable mold element. The stated use of angles and alteration to the movable mold element is to allow one resin material to be over-molded onto the other resin material. Although not readily**

**disclosed in Schoemann it would have been obvious to one having the ordinary skill in the art to angle the movable mold element (shut-off member) in such a way to allow the upper surface to be at a flat surface so that a vehicle owner can only see the resin material which is aesthetically and/or tactilely pleasing.) See abstract and/or column 1 lines 28-57.**

iii. Schoemann builds on Gajewski's invention by allowing transition portion of the resin material to be angled and thereby hiding the unwanted resin from being shown to the end user. Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Gajewski with Schoemann to make the invention as disclosed in claim 38 because one would have been motivated to create a final product which is aesthetically pleasing to an end user.

5. Regarding claim 39, Gajewski teaches wherein the first resin is at least partially solidified when the second resin is injected. **(See column 6 lines 49-55).**

6. Regarding claim 40, Gajewski does not specifically teach further comprising a space between the shut-off member and the second mold section when the shut-off member is in the first position so that air can escape from the first cavity to the second cavity during the step of injecting the first resin into the first cavity. **(However, it is well known in the art to leave a gap, vent, or crevice to allow air to escape during injection. This is done to eliminate air bubble formation in an injection molded part. For example see drawing 1 in Haruhiko et al. (Japanese Patent Publication 2002-187166—made of record by the applicant) disclosing T1 which is a gap between the Shut-off member and the mold surface.)**

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7. Regarding claims 41-43, Gajewski does not expressly teach wherein: (1) wherein the first resin comprises a first color and the second resin comprises a second color different than the first color; (2) wherein the first resin comprises at least one of a thermoplastic material, a thermoset material, or an elastomer material; and (3) wherein the second resin comprises at least one of a thermoplastic material, a thermoset material, or an elastomer material.

d. However, Schoemann teaches wherein the over-molded sections can include multiple colors, thermoplastic materials, and elastomers. **(See column 4 lines 23-51).**

e. It would have been obvious to one having the ordinary skill in the art to use different materials to impart different functionality to the molded sections as car interior components must serve various functions.

7. Regarding claim 44, Gajewski teaches a method of making a molded article for a vehicle interior. **(See abstract).**

i. Gajewski goes on to teach the method comprising:

iv. Providing a mold having a first mold section, a second mold section, and a shut-off member. **(See column 5 line 44 to column 7 line 11).**

(17) First mold section→ **See part 44 of figure 3.**

(18) Second mold section→ **See part 42 of figure 3.**

(19) A first and second shut-off member→ **See parts 48 and 50 of figure 3.**

- (20) A-surface of first mold section→ **See mold surface of part 44 in figure 3.**
- (21) B-surface of second mold section→ **See mold surface of part 42 of figure 3.**
- (22) Shut-off member disposed in the second mold section→ **See parts 48 and 50 disposed in part 42 of figure 3.**
- (23) Shut-off member movable between two positions: an extended and a retracted position→**See position of shut-off members (48 and 50) in figures 4-15 and column 5 lines 44-62.**
- (24) Shut-off member has a forward surface, a first and second side surface, and an angled surface that extends between the forward surface and the first side surface→**See configuration of part 48 in figures 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, and 15.**
- j. Injecting a resin into the first cavity which is defined by the first mold section, the second mold section, and the first and second shut-off member in the first position.
  - ix. **See figures 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, and 15.**
  - x. **See also column 6 line 39 to column 7 line 11.**
  - (3) Gajewski teaches wherein part 48 is extended to form a cavity which is defined by a first side surface (68), the 1<sup>st</sup> mold section (44), and the second mold section (part 80 which is angled wall of lower mold (42)). **(See figure 5).**

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k. Retracting the shut-off members into the second mold section. **(See column 6 lines 49-55 and figures 8-9).** This retraction defines a second cavity defined by the first mold section, the second mold section, the first resin, the first and second shut-off member in the second position. **(See figure 9 and column 6 lines 55-67).**

xi. In figure 9 of Gajewski, the retracted shut-off member (48) creates the second cavity defined by the first and second mold sections (part 42 and 44), the first resin (90), the angled surface of the shut-off member (70), and a side surface of the shut-off member (parts 64 and 68). **(See figures 5 and 9).**

l. Injecting the second resin into the second cavity. **(See figures 11 and 13 and column 6 line 64 to column 7 line 11).**

xii. The formed product on the A-surface side (mold surface side of part 44 in figure 3) is defined by the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> resin and the interface between the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> resin.

m. Regarding claim 44, Gajewski does not explicitly teach: (1) moving the second shut-off member to the second position to define a third cavity without moving the first mold section relative to the second mold section wherein the third cavity is defined by the first mold section; and (2) and injecting a third resin into the third cavity.

n. However, Schoemann teaches: (1) a second shut-off member; (2) wherein the second shut-off member acts to define a cavity; (3) moving the second shut-

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off member to the second position to define a third cavity without moving the first mold section relative to the second mold section wherein the third cavity is defined by the first mold section; and (4) and injecting a third resin into the third cavity. **(See column 10 lines 58-67 disclosing that "it will be appreciated that a mold assembly adapted to manufacture a trim component in accordance with the method of this invention can include any desirable number of movable cores which define any number of cavities." In sum, Schoemann teaches that a second shut off member can be utilized to create a third cavity in which a third resin is injected into. Schoemann goes on to teach that a first, second, and third material are used to form the trim component. (See column 10 lines 1-8).**

o. It would have been obvious to one having the ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made to add multiple shut-off elements (movable cores), since it has been held that the mere duplication of essential working parts involves only routine skill in the art. *St. Regis Paper Co. v. Bemis Co.*, 193 USPQ 8.

8. Regarding claim 45, Gajewski teaches wherein moving the first shut-off member between the first position and the second position comprises translating movement. **(See parts 54 and 56 of figure 3 and column 5 lines 45-62 disclosing that a hydraulic means is used to actuate (translate) the shut-off members (48 and 50).**

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9. Regarding claim 46, Gajewski teaches wherein the shut-off members are positioned in the second mold section. **(See figure 3 showing parts 48 and 50 in part 42).**

10. Regarding claim 47-48, Gajewski does not specifically teach: (1) further comprising a gap between the first shut-off member and the second mold section when the first shut-off member in the first position; and (2) wherein the gap is configured to provide a vent to allow air to escape the first mold cavity when injecting the first resin into the first cavity. **(However, it is well known in the art to leave a gap, vent, or crevice to allow air to escape during injection. This is done to eliminate air bubble formation in an injection molded part. For example see drawing 1 in Haruhiko et al. (Japanese Patent Publication 2002-187166—made of record by the applicant) disclosing T1 which is a gap between the Shut-off member and the mold surface.)**

11. Regarding claims 49-50, Gajewski teaches bonding (the first resin to the second resin **(See figure 11)**). However, Gajewski does not specifically teach: (1) further comprising the step of bonding the third resin to the first resin and (2) wherein bonding the second resin to the first resin comprises fusion bonding and bonding the third resin to the first resin comprises fusion bonding. **(The objective in the art of molding multiple resin materials together in a single mold is to bond the materials without any additional means (i.e. adhesion or mechanical structure). Fusion bonding typically occurs in injection molding operations as a high contact force (pressure) causes the substrates to hold together. Furthermore, given the limited number of methods of bonding multiple resins in one mold (i.e. adhesive,**

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**mechanical, or fusion, it would have been obvious to one having the ordinary skill in the art to try fusion bonding. KSR v. Teleflex 82 USPQ2d 1385)**

- f. As Schoemann teaches that any number of mold cores can be used to male different cavities it would have been obvious to one having the ordinary skill in the art to use various materials in each cavity to make a multi-functional component.
12. Regarding claims 51-53, Gajewski does not expressly teach wherein: (1) wherein the first resin comprises a first color and the second resin comprises a second color different than the first color; (2) wherein the first resin comprises at least one of a thermoplastic material, a thermoset material, or an elastomer material; and (3) wherein the second resin comprises at least one of a thermoplastic material, a thermoset material, or a elastomer material.
- g. However, Schoemann teaches wherein the over-molded sections can include multiple colors, thermoplastic materials, and elastomers. **(See column 4 lines 23-51).**
- h. It would have been obvious to one having the ordinary skill in the art to use different materials to impart different functionality to the molded sections as car interior components must serve various functions.
13. Regarding claim 54, Gajewski teaches wherein the shut-off members move at the same time. **(See column 6 lines 39-67 and figure 3).**
14. Regarding claims 55-57, Gajewski does not teach: (1) wherein the first shut-off member moves before the second shut-off member; (2) wherein moving the first shut-off



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member comprises moving the first shut-off member in a first direction and moving the second shut-off member comprises moving the second shut-off member in a second direction that is parallel to the first direction; and (3) wherein moving the first shut-off member comprises moving the first shut-off member in a first direction and moving the second shut-off member comprises moving the second shut-off member in a second direction that is not parallel to the first direction.

- i. However, Schoemann at column 10 lines 58- 67, discloses that any number of movable mold cores can be used to create any number of cavities. Also see Figure 15, showing that the movable mold core can be at an angle. It would have been obvious to one having the ordinary skill in the art to create multiple movable mold cores (shut-off members) that each had their own drive mechanism to enable the process to be controlled more efficiently. Designating the positions in which the movable mold cores are held in is a conventional design consideration that would have been made by one having the ordinary skill in the art.

15. Regarding claim 58, Gajewski teaches wherein the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> resin have different properties. **(See column 2 lines 26-41).**

16. Regarding claims 59, Gajewski does not expressly teach wherein the 1<sup>st</sup> resin comprises a 1<sup>st</sup> color and the second color comprises a second color different from the 1<sup>st</sup> color.

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- j. However, Schoemann teaches wherein the over-molded sections can include multiple colors, thermoplastic materials, and elastomers. **(See column 4 lines 23-51).**
  - k. It would have been obvious to one having the ordinary skill in the art to use different materials to impart different functionality to the molded sections as car interior components must serve various functions.
17. Regarding claim 60. Gajewski does not expressly teach wherein at least one of the first resin and the second resin comprises a material property different than the third resin.
- l. However, Schoemann teaches wherein the over-molded sections can include multiple colors, thermoplastic materials, and elastomers. **(See column 4 lines 23-51).**
  - m. It would have been obvious to one having the ordinary skill in the art to use different materials to impart different functionality to the molded sections as car interior components must serve various functions.

### ***Response to Arguments***

18. Applicant's arguments filed September 17, 2010 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.
19. **Applicant Argument #1:**
- n. Applicant argues that Gajewski does not expressly teach the formation of an A surface and a B Surface because a foam material (part 16 in figure 2)

covers the formed part (12 and 24 of figure 2) of Gajewski. Thus there cannot be an A surface side of the part formed by Gajewski.

20. **Examiner Response #1:**

o. Applicant has defined the “A’ surface as generally defined by a portion of the polymeric resin that is injected first, a portion of the polymeric resin that is injected second, and an interface between the two polymeric materials. **(See paragraph 0046 of applicant’s specification)**. There is no requirement in applicant's claims requiring that the A surface be visible at all times to the vehicle occupant. In response to applicant's argument that the references fail to show certain features of applicant's invention, it is noted that the features upon which applicant relies (i.e., **[the A surface being visible to a vehicle occupant]**) are not recited in the rejected claim(s). Although the claims are interpreted in light of the specification, limitations from the specification are not read into the claims.

See *In re Van Geuns*, 988 F.2d 1181, 26 USPQ2d 1057 (Fed. Cir. 1993).

p. Gajewski teaches the general teaching of an A surface described by applicant. In figure 2 of Gajewski, parts 12 or 90 can be considered the first resin and part 24 would be the second resin with the interface being at positions 26 and 30. **(See figure 2)**. As the interface (26) is angled the interface between the two formed parts will be hidden to some degree, thus qualifying as an A surface.

21. **Applicant Argument #2:**

q. Applicant argues that Gajewski cannot be used as a teaching because the addition of a foam layer (16) would make the need for a hidden interface unnecessary.

22. **Examiner Response #2:**

r. In response to applicant's argument that **[the prior art Gajewski does not contemplate hiding the interface]**, the fact that applicant has recognized another advantage which would flow naturally from following the suggestion of the prior art cannot be the basis for patentability when the differences would otherwise be obvious. See *Ex parte Obiaya*, 227 USPQ 58, 60 (Bd. Pat. App. & Inter. 1985). In this case, the hidden interface would be similar to the creation of the hinged connection 26 of Gajewski and would perform the same function even though not expressly disclosed for such a use by Gajewski. Furthermore, Schoemann teaches the importance of a hidden interface and why one having the ordinary skill in the art would seek such a design.

23. **Applicant Argument #3:**

s. Applicant argues with regards to claim 38, that the shut off member in Gajewski does not extend between a side surface and a forward surface of the shut-off member because Gajewski's shut-off member has a subwall (68).

24. **Examiner Response #3:**

t. Examiner submits that the applicant's claim only requires that the shut-off member have an angled surface that extends BETWEEN the forward surface and the first side surface. There is no requirement that the angled surface run

along the entire length of the forward surface. In response to applicant's argument that the references fail to show certain features of applicant's invention, it is noted that the features upon which applicant relies (i.e., **[that the angled surface runs along the entire length of the forward surface]**) are not recited in the rejected claim(s). Although the claims are interpreted in light of the specification, limitations from the specification are not read into the claims. See *In re Van Geuns*, 988 F.2d 1181, 26 USPQ2d 1057 (Fed. Cir. 1993).

25. **Applicant Argument #4:**

u. Applicant argues that Examiner fails to explain where Gajewski and Schoemann disclose a method for making an angled recess.

26. **Examiner Response #4:**

v. Examiner submits that part 26 of figure 2 of Gajewski shows an interface (angled region) formed by a retractable member. It is examiner's position that this interface will form a angled surface which can hide the transition point between the two resin materials.

***Conclusion***

27. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not

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mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to AMJAD ABRAHAM whose telephone number is (571)270-7058. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Eastern Time.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Yogendra Gupta can be reached on (571) 272-1316. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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/Philip C Tucker/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 1745